

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1 1. (Previously Presented) A data processing apparatus, comprising:
2 a subject;
3 an observer adapted to generate configuration information, the configuration information
4 comprising an attribute of the observer; and
5 an aspect object created by the observer and adapted for attachment to the subject, the
6 aspect object further adapted to receive the configuration information from the observer
7 and to selectively communicate the update information to the observer based on the
8 configuration information.
- 1 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the configuration information includes a desired
2 type indication.
- 1 3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the aspect object selectively
2 discards the update information in response to the desired type indication.
- 1 4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the attribute of the observer
2 includes a communication speed indication.
- 1 5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4, further comprising an accumulator that
2 accumulates the update information in response to the communication speed indication.
- 1 6. (Cancelled)

1 7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the subject generates the state
2 change indication and communicates the state change incitation to the aspect object.

1 8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a preprocessor that
2 selectively modifies the update information in response to the configuration information.

1 9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a first processor;
3 a first memory coupled to the first processor, wherein the subject and the aspect object
4 reside within the first memory;
5 a second processor; and
6 a second memory coupled to the second processor, wherein the observer resides within
7 the second memory.

1 10. (Previously Presented) A distributed computer system, comprising:
2 a) a subject code segment resident on a first computer node, the subject code segment
3 adapted to produce an update message;
4 b) an observer resident on a second computer node, the first computer node being in
5 operable communication with the second computer node; and
6 c) an aspect object created by the observer and attached to the subject code segment, the
7 aspect object configured to receive the update message from the subject code segment
8 and to selectively communicate update information to the observer based at least in part
9 upon an attribute of the observer and the received information.

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1 11. (Previously Presented) The distributed computer system of claim 10, wherein the subject
2 code segment comprises a network management software program, and wherein the observer
3 code segment comprises a graphical user interface.

1 12. (Cancelled)

1 13. (Previously Presented) A method of communicating updates from a subject to an observer,
2 comprising:

3 in an observer, generating instructions to create an aspect object;
4 communicating configuration information from the observer to the aspect object, the
5 configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer;
6 attaching the aspect object to a subject;
7 notifying the aspect object of an update;
8 interrogating the update to generate to generate update information; and
9 selectively communicating the update to the observer based on a comparison between the
10 update information and the configuration information.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising selectively modifying the
2 update information based on a comparison between the update and the configuration information.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising accumulating the update
2 information based on the configuration information.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising sending updated
2 configuration information from the observer to the aspect object, wherein the updated
3 configuration information comprises an updated attribute of the observer.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the updated attribute of the
2 observer includes a system load indication.

1 18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:

2 (a) a program configured to perform a method of controlling updates between a subject
3 and an observer, the method comprising:

4 in an observer, generating instructions to create an aspect object;
5 communicating configuration information from the observer to the aspect object,
6 the configuration information comprising an attribute of the observer;
7 attaching the aspect object to a subject;
8 notifying the aspect object of an update;
9 interrogating the update to generate to generate update information; and
10 selectively communicating the update to the observer based on a comparison
11 between the update information and the configuration information; and

12 (b) a ~~signal bearing physical, computer readable storage~~ media bearing the program.

1 20. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 selectively modifying the update based on a comparison between the update information and the
3 configuration information.

1 21. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 accumulating the update information based on a comparison between the update information and
3 the configuration information.

1 22. (Original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the method further comprises
2 sending updated configuration information from the observer to the aspect.

1 23. (Previously Presented) A method of maintaining data consistency between a subject object
2 on a first computer system and an observer object on a second computer system, comprising:

- 3 a) in an observer object, generating instructions to create an aspect object;
- 4 b) communicating configuration information from the observer object to the aspect
- 5 object, the configuration information including a desired type indicator and a desired
- 6 communication rate indicator;
- 7 c) attaching the aspect object to the subject object; and
- 8 d) in response to a state change indication from the subject:
 - 9 1) sending an update to the aspect;
 - 10 2) interrogating the update to generate an update type indicator;
 - 11 3) modifying the update based on a comparison between the update type indicator
 - 12 and the desired type indicator to produce a modified update;
 - 13 4) sending the modified update to an accumulator;
 - 14 5) using the desired communication rate indicator to determine whether the object
 - 15 is ready to receive the modified update; and
 - 16 6) communicating the modified update to the observer.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein subject comprises an object and
2 wherein the observer comprises an object.

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1 25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein subject comprises an object and
2 wherein the observer comprises an object.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein subject
2 comprises an object and wherein the observer comprises an object.